



KIGER ISLAND: ANCESTRAL TERRITORY OF THE KALAPULA
NATION

Crown Watchpoint 001A – Willamette Valley, Oregon

By Order of the Sovereign Flame-Bearer

Chief Daniel Jacob Read IV, Kalapula Nation

Historical Record

Kiger Island, situated just south of Corvallis, Oregon, rests in the heart of the ancestral homelands of the Kalapula Nation. This territory falls specifically within the domains of the Tsankupi (Marys River Kalapuyans) and borders the traditional lands of the Chepenefa and Ahantchuyuk families.

Before settler contact, this island and the surrounding floodplains served as:

- Ceremonial gathering space
- Burial grounds
- Seasonal food harvesting zones (camas, wapato, hazelnut, fish)
- Canoe transport routes and intertribal exchange zones

The waterways that frame Kiger Island were sacred arteries of movement and memory—each bend in the river echoing the songs, footsteps, and prayers of our ancestors.

Colonial Impact

The Treaty of 1855, signed under coercion and never properly honored, stripped the Kalapula Nation of its lands. In the wake of that betrayal:

- Kiger Island was seized and developed

- Ancestral remains were almost certainly disturbed or destroyed
- Agricultural and residential expansion occurred without cultural consultation or archaeological survey

To this day, no comprehensive review has ever been conducted on Kiger Island to assess our island for tribal burial sites, middens, or ceremonial zones.

The absence of state records is not evidence of absence. It is evidence of erasure.

Cultural and Burial Significance

Kiger Island's location and geography match well-documented Kalapuyan burial traditions:

- Close proximity to river confluences
- Tilled fields with no known mitigation
- Tree-lined elevated areas ideal for ceremony and burial

Multiple spiritual indicators suggest that sacred sites lie below the surface, hidden by settler development and agricultural masking. Yet the land remembers—and so do we.

Sovereign Declaration

By the authority vested in the Office of the Flame-Bearer, the Kalapula Nation hereby issues this public declaration:

Kiger Island is an active cultural memory zone. It is under sovereign observation by the Kalapula Nation. Any further soil disturbance or excavation without tribal consultation is hereby condemned and spiritually protested. A formal Kalapula Memory Investigation is now open and ongoing.

This declaration shall be preserved as public record in the Kalapula Restoration Archive.

With memory, reverence, and flame,

Chief Daniel Jacob Read IV

Sovereign of the Kalapula Nation



📍 Crown Watchpoint 001A – Corvallis, Oregon

✉️ chief@kalapulanation.org

🌐 www.kalapula.com

🕊️ This message is part of a nonprofit Indigenous remembrance movement and is protected under sovereign cultural communication.